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COUNTRY

Germany (Soviet Zone)

REPORT NO.

TOPIC Volkspolizei Grenzbereitschaft in Gefell in the Vogtland

EVALUATION

25X1X PLACE OBTAINED

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DATE OF CONTENT prior to 3 April 1952

DATE OBTAINED 25X1A DATE PREPARED 14 Mar 1952

REFERENCES 25X1A

PAGES 2 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)

REMARKS

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SOURCE

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1. Prior to 3 April 1952, the Volkspolizei Grenzbereitschaft (VPG) in Gefell numbered about 700 police and was organized into the headquarters of about 70 men, 3 Kommandantur headquarters each of about 30 men, 9 Kommando headquarters each of about 9 men, 13 Grenzwachen (border posts) each of about 33 men and the 2 Kontrollpassierpunkte (check points) in Gutenfuerst with 25 men and in Juchhoh with 80 men. Under the reorganization program, the department Grenze was transferred to the Landespolizeibehoerden (Land Police Headquarters) (LPDVP) in early January 1952. In early April, the LPDVP assumed the financial administration of the VPGs whose financial sections were deactivated. In early April, the VPG in Gefell was reinforced by members of the HVA.

2. At the time reported, the VPG in Gefell was employed as follows:

Kommandantur 1 in Kurzbach with Kommandos in Titschendorf, Lehesten and Schlegel; and Grenzwachen in Titschendorf, Lehesten, Schlegel, Luerrenbach, Grunbach and Brennersgruen.

Kommandantur 2 in Hirschberg on the Saale River with Kommandos in Blankenstein, Hirschberg and Cebersreuth; Grenzwachen in Podciga, Blankenstein, Hirschberg, Venzka, and Koedlareuth; and a Kontrollpassierpunkt in Juchhoch.

Kommandantur 3 in Gross Zoeborn with Kommandos in Grobau, Heinersgruen and Troschenreuth; Grenzwachen in Grobau, Krebes, Heinersgruen, Niedersberg, Troschenreuth and Posseck; and a Kontrollpassierpunkt in Gutenfuerst.

3. Officers of the VPG included VP Kommandeur Wagner (fmu), commanding officer; VP Oberrat Beuthe, (fmu) chief of staff; VP Rat Albert, (fmu), chief of the K section; VP Oberkommissar Reppien (fmu), liaison officer to the Ministry of State Security; and VP Rat Hoffmann (fmu), commanding officer of the Kommandantur in Gross Zoeborn.

4. The VPG in Gefell was scheduled to be transferred to the Lug ins Land hotel in Schleitz and to receive the new designation VPG in Schleitz. The Kommandantur in Hirschberg was then to be transferred to Gefell.

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5. The following Soviet control stations existed for the area of the Kommandantur in Gross Zoeborn at the time of observation: at Gassenreuth for the Grenzwachen in Posseck and Droschenreuth, in the Lossenberg area for the Grenzwache in Niedersberg, at Laxgruen for the Grenzwachen in Weinersgruen and Krebes and at Gutenfuerst for the Grenzwachen in Grobau and Gebersreuth. \*

25X1A \* [REDACTED] Comment. The headquarters of the VPGB in Gefell is said to have moved to Seelburg about January 1952. The personnel strength of 700 men as mentioned in the report is probably too low. Using the strengths of the headquarters and the subordinate units as a base figure, 940 men would be the total strength. The now authorized strength of the VPGBs employed at the zonal border is about 960, and it is probable that the actual strength of the VPGB in Gefell is 940, rather than 700. The report confirms that the VPGB was recently organized into the headquarters, 3 Kommandatuer, 2 Kommandos and 10 Grenzwachen. [REDACTED]

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